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military occupation and authority set at defiance by a German consular officer, and her dignity internationally wounded. Thus the situation was such as to create tense relations between the two great nations, as that elusive thing called "honor" was involved, something to which the Hague Peace Convention only applied so far as the nations in interest might see fit to make it applicable. Fortunately, the very existence of the Convention was a monition to settle the trouble through peaceful ways. A reference was had to The Hague and a result attained which salved the self-love of both nations.

Is it a question of the interpretation of treaties? Men have been willing to fight over their meaning rather than to sacrifice one jot of what they considered the rights of their country. Their imperfect patriotism, instead of protecting their country through peaceful arrangement or adjustment, has drenched their land in blood, destroyed homes and burdened future generations. Peacefully and naturally when three nations, in 1903, interpreted the Bowen protocols in one way and eight in another, reference was had to the Hague Court, and at trivial expense, considering the interest of the question, a solution was reached, which, whether correct or otherwise, was more righteous than war.

Another condition of lesser importance in the construction of treaties, but of interest as touching the dignity of the parties involved, was presented by the Japanese House Tax case, in which, as I have indicated, a conclusion was reached unfavorable to Japan, against the protest of her representative, but entirely acquiesced in as a controlling arbitral sentence. And once more, France and England, in the Muscat case, found no difficulty in having their conflicting rights or claims solved by the Hague Tribunal.

Thus we see that, in principle, The Hague has met and determined several classes of questions which, undetermined, lead to national friction and often ultimately to war. But it may be said that there yet remains, outside of the questions so far judicially adjusted, a large field as to which courts cannot control. Questions of honor and national independence may be reserved from judicial solution according to the Hague Peace Convention. But, as we have seen, questions of honor, or supposed honor, have been passed upon, as in the Casablanca case—a case presenting a situation which, in other national moods, might have spelt war. So did England feel that her national honor had been challenged when it was first proposed to submit to arbitration the Alabama claims. And yet the Geneva Tribunal offered an illustration of the triumph of common sense over supersensitiveness never equaled before or since its time.

We will not forget that the great merit in the Hague Convention is, not that through it may be solved, well or ill, differences at issue, but that its very existence is an international question-mark whenever the national passions of men are excited. If a nation smart under a sense of injury, and would seek to avenge itself upon another nation and slay multitudes of men innocent of the sins or offenses of a few who may have happened to have been in power or have been the provoking agents, the query arises in the minds of increasing thousands whether the trouble ought to be judicially adjusted under the provisions of the Hague Convention, and the inability to give a negative answer or the inability on searching self-ex-

amination to justify one's self alike tends towards peace. Thus it is that the Hague Conventions are bringing about a state of mind—a mental condition—which makes war hard, and peace easy.

I am not saying that the Hague Peace Conventions and their already glorious history mean that war is to be no more. For hundreds of years we have been improving national judicial methods, and have not reached perfection. For a like period we have progressed towards internal peace, and yet we have thieves and murderers. Likewise may we expect for years to come that thieving nations and brutal nations will display their characteristics, and even that ordinarily well-behaved nations will, under stress, fall from grace. So long as the words "sphere of influence," "vital interests," "balance of power," "white man's burden" remain honored phrases in national and international language, so long will the idea of wrongdoing hidden by them continue to exist among men.

Considerations of time and space have prevented me from speaking more at length with regard to the defects of past systems of arbitration and of the existing system under the Hague Peace Convention. Enough has been said to indicate that the latest system is imperfect, and other speakers can, and doubtless will, point out more at length its defects. But errors of detail are subject to corrections which will be made so long as we keep before us an ideal worthy of our best efforts. This ideal will contemplate an international court no less free from social, political and official pressure than are our courts of highest jurisdiction passing upon the disputes of individuals; a court where actions may be initiated at no special expense to the nations litigating; a court whose opinions, given as free from national or other bias as may be humanly possible, will stand as full, impartial and truthful expositions of the highest teachings of international law.

Field Secretary's Report for December, 1910.

BY CHARLES E. BEALS.

One must "get up before breakfast and work between meals" in order to accept all the invitations that come raining in on peace workers these days. During the past month the Field Secretary has traveled some thirty-five hundred miles, sometimes ploughing through blizzards, once riding all night in a day coach on a belated train, and often starting before daylight.

At Lake Forest College on November 29, through the courtesy of President Nollen, "The Peace Movement as a Part of a Great World Movement towards Brotherhood" was discussed by the Field Secretary. The Men's Club of the Glen Ellyn Congregational Church held its Ladies' Night banquet on December 1. As one of the guests, the Field Secretary addressed the company on "Organizing Peace on Earth." Before the Isaiah Woman's Club of Isaiah Temple (Rabbi Joseph Stolz, D. D., pastor), the question "Are we nearing the Goal in the Peace Movement?" was asked, and answered by the Field Secretary, and one of the Chicago papers devoted generous space to a report of the address. On December 13, Greer College, Hoopeston, Ill., was visited at the invitation of President E. L. Bailey, and a plea was made to put the Christmas angels' song into international conferences, codes and tribunals.

One of the most delightful and inspiring of experiences was a visit to Madison, Wis., on Sunday, December 18. The Field Secretary enjoyed the hospitality of that royal worker, Mr. Louis P. Lochner, and his charming wife. At an afternoon gathering of the Cosmopolitan Club, seventeen nationalities were represented. The national songs of the various nations were sung. The visiting peace man pointed out the things that the peace movement and cosmopolitanism have in common. The club atmosphere was electric with internationalism. Then came the great meeting of the University Young Men's Christian Association, at which the Peace Secretary told why peace is inevitable, and prophesied that the Christmas song, before long, would be realized in international relations. In the evening the First Congregational Church of Madison opened its pulpit, through the gracious courtesy of its pastors, Rev. Drs. Updike and Edwards. "The Peace Movement" was described and interpreted at this service.

The Case School of Applied Science, Cleveland, O., was the next appointment. Arriving in time to breakfast with President Charles S. Howe on Tuesday morning, December 20, the Secretary received a royal welcome from this great engineering and scientific school and its efficient president. The subject presented was "Progress towards International Peace." By traveling all night in a slow train with day coaches, the itinerant pacifist reached Wheaton College, Wheaton, Ill., in time to speak at chapel exercises on Wednesday morning, December 21, on the subject "Putting the Christmas Angels' Song into International Institutions.

On Sunday, Christmas Day, the Anthropological Society of Chicago devoted its meeting to the consideration of "Organizing Peace on Earth," with the Field Secretary as the speaker.

The local Peace Society is coöperating with the Inter-collegiate Peace Association. One of our honorary vice-presidents, Hon. H. N. Higinbotham, at the last meeting of the executive committee of the Chicago Peace Society, contributed fifty dollars for one of the prizes in the coming oratorical contest. Students who are planning to compete are applying to the office for material.

The Field Secretary participated in a symposium published by the Evanston *Press* on "My Most Remarkable Christmas," seizing the occasion to describe that elongated, permanent Christmas that will some day be realized when peace and goodwill shall be organized into international codes, courts and coöperation.

The observance of Peace Day, on Sunday, December 18, created a demand for peace literature, and ammunition was furnished for some important pulpit volleys. The most noteworthy gathering was a group meeting of six churches addressed by President Nollen and Mr. Higinbotham, at which resolutions protesting against the fortification of the Panama Canal were presented by Dr. Jenkin Lloyd Jones and adopted by the meeting. Rabbi Stolz, Dr. Vance and many others also uttered noble words in their respective churches.

By the time the January *ADVOCATE* is in the hands of the readers, the Chicago Peace Society will have held its annual business meeting. Friends of peace will rejoice to know that the new society ends its first year with all bills paid, having raised over \$4,000 for the local work. Next year we ought to spend a very much larger sum.

The times are ripe and opportunities are opening for a wise and effective enlargement of the work. The annual banquet will not be held in connection with the business meeting, but a little later in the winter or early spring, to accommodate the speakers. Hon. William Jennings Bryan has accepted an invitation to be the guest of the society, and our first president, Hon. George E. Roberts, now Director of the Mint, Washington, D. C., is expected to be present.

Mrs. Lucia Ames Mead will be in Chicago early in the new year, giving us ten days of her time.

Mrs. H. W. Thomas, widow of the president of the former Chicago Peace Society, is in this city for a season. Mrs. Thomas is establishing prizes for peace orations in three colleges. The details of her plans will be given later.

Through the generosity of Mr. Alfred L. Baker, president of the Chicago Peace Society, the Secretary was present at the International Conference held in Washington, D. C., December 15 to 17, under the auspices of the American Society for the Judicial Settlement of International Disputes.

Of course the dramatic event of the month is Mr. Carnegie's great gift. For the first time in history the peace movement will probably now be adequately financed. Already the tone of newspaper editorials is noticeably more friendly and less skeptical. Even the annual war scare this year is treated by the leading journalists as a huge joke, perennially revived, "for revenue only," on the eve of the Congressional action on military and naval appropriations.

153 La Salle Street, Chicago.

The New York Peace Society.

BY WILLIAM H. SHORT, EXECUTIVE SECRETARY.

On December 27 the New York Peace Society announced to its members a reception to the Hon. and Mrs. Oscar S. Straus, to be held at the Plaza Hotel on Saturday afternoon, January 7, 1911. Mr. Straus was the first president of the Society, resigning only when he found it necessary to remove to Washington to become the first Secretary of the new Department of Commerce and Labor in Mr. Roosevelt's Cabinet. Mr. and Mrs. Straus have recently returned to New York on leave of absence from the post of United States Ambassador to Turkey. Members are allowed to bring one guest, and admittance will be by card. [Mrs. Henry Villard has organized a reception committee, of which she is chairman, among other members being Mrs. Andrew Carnegie, Mrs. James Speyer, Mrs. William Jay Schieffelin, Mrs. Emil L. Boas, Mrs. Frederick Nathan, Mrs. George Place and Miss Spence. The following gentlemen constitute a committee of invitation for the reception: Andrew Carnegie, chairman; Cornelius N. Bliss, George B. Cortelyou, R. Fulton Cutting, D. Stuart Dodge, Samuel T. Dutton, Robert Erskine Ely, Algernon S. Frissell, Elbert H. Gary, A. Augustus Healey, Hamilton Holt, William B. Howland, George W. Kirchwey, William Loeb, Jr., Frederick Lynch, William G. McAdoo, St. Clair McKelway, Marcus M. Marks, Adolph S. Ochs, Alton B. Parker, George W. Perkins, Lindsay Russell, Jacob H. Schiff, Isaac N. Seligman, William H. Short, James Speyer,